New Deal Project: student handout

In a few years, preparations will begin for the 100 anniversary observations of the Great Depression. Mr. Wilson, our own 8th grade English teacher, is also the Executive Director of the Rockbridge Historical Society. He needs our help in getting ready for this important anniversary!

You will pick a local New Deal project, visit it, and prepare an informational plaque that Mr. Wilson can use for a future display.

      - you should try to visit your site if possible to check out the project in person (look for a date or marker about its construction) **
            - take a picture to include on your project
            - or draw your topic
      - you will describe how this project helped the Lexington/Rockbridge area
      - you will research the government agency that funded the project

Public Works Administration (PWA)
VMI projects:
      Crozet Hall built
      Maury-Brooke hall fireproofed
      Richardson Hall built
      Barracks (wood interiors were replaced with concrete)
Maury River Bridge at East Lexington (in current position but replaced in 1990s)
Robey Bridge (crossing the Maury River into Buena Vista)
Natural Bridge High School (no longer a school)
Effinger High School (now Rockbridge County Schools Central Office)
Glasgow Elementary School (no longer a school)
Goshen School Auditorium (no longer a school)

Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC)
Cave Mountain Lake and picnic shelter
Blue Ridge Parkway

Civil Works Administration (CWA)
Concrete bleachers at Waddell Elementary (removed during renovation)
Lylburn Downing ball field
dam near Waddell Elementary (was supposed to create a public swimming area)

Works Progress Administration (WPA)
widening of South Main Street and adding sidewalks from Wallace to White St
Nelson St Bridge in Lexington (replaced in 2000s)

Rural Electrification Administration

Your finished project should be on a piece of poster board (about ¼ of a full sheet)

Your writing should be short and to the point… think about the Virginia Historical Markers we see along roads, there isn't a lot of text.